

Town of Lincoln

Budget Board Meeting

March 30, 2016

Present:

**Carl Brunetti Rhonda Lacombe Mike Babbitt Dave Hartley
Bill McManus Paul Deutsch Felix Fernandes Bill DiBiasio
Bob Turner Mike O'Connell**

Absent:

Maria Marcello

Call to Order

The meeting began at 7:33 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of March 24th were distributed for review.

Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Mike Babbitt, to approve the minutes.

The minutes were accepted as amended by unanimous vote.

The minutes of the March 26th Town Facilities Tour were distributed for review.

Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Mike Babbitt, to approve the minutes.

The minutes were accepted as amended by unanimous vote.

Correspondence

The Budget Board submitted questions to the Town Administrator, and did receive some information in response.

The Town Administrator would like to meet with the Board in person regarding their questions as he cautioned that any discussions outside of open meetings may violate the charter.

Public Comment

There were no public comments or questions at the time.

Business

Municipal FY17 Budget

The Budget Board discussed that after they have made their recommended adjustments to the municipal operating budget they may go back and look at the Road Repairs line to see if a different number would be more appropriate in order to accommodate other things in the budget, such as the new trucks that they believe should be taken out of the capital projects and put into the operating budget.

Mike Babbitt made a motion, seconded by Bill DiBiasio, that the High School Stage II Study be recommended at \$125,000 out of Fund 50.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Budget Board deferred on voting on a recommendation or the Animal Shelter pending further discussion with the Town

Administrator.

Education FY17 Budget

Capital Improvement Resolutions

Ferguson Field Concessions and Restrooms

The Budget Board discussed taking out demolition of the existing building, which has already been completed, and including inflation for labor and materials over the past year.

They also discussed whether the architect fee of approximately \$20,000 was already completed and paid for by the first phase of the project.

Bill DiBiasio made a motion to recommend the Concessions and Restroom project at \$250,000.

The motion failed for lack of second.

Rhonda Lacombe made a motion, seconded by Dave Hartley, to recommend the project at \$230,000.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

High School Boiler Replacement/Repairs

The Budget Board discussed options, including repairing the existing boilers in order to not have to replace them until 2021 when the new High School will be completed.

Mike Babbitt made a motion, seconded by Dave Hartley, to recommend \$90,000 for the repair of the existing boilers and not

replacement.

The motion passed by unanimous vote making the total for capital improvements to the High School \$320,000.

Northern Elementary

Mike Babbitt made a motion, seconded by Dave Hartley, to recommend \$22,500 for the retiling of the basement hallway including a vapor barrier.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Window Security Film

Bob Turner made a motion, seconded by Dave Hartley for discussion purposes, to recommend \$42,000 for window security film at all of the schools.

The Budget Board discussed that it seems to be only a small piece of what needs to be completed with no set plan as to what will be done after that despite the security consultation, and they expressed concerns about the safety of the film on means of egress in the event of an emergency.

The motion failed by a vote of 4 in favor to 6 against.

Middle School

A recommendation of \$32,500 for the energy control system has already been voted upon by the Board.

Central Elementary

The Budget Board discussed that energy controls, if used system-wide, could lead to big savings in energy costs over time.

Mike Babbitt made a motion, seconded by Dave Hartley, that the Energy System with Remote Access be recommended at \$130,000. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

A recommendation of \$7,500 for 3 Security Cameras has already been voted upon by the Board.

The new total for recommended capital improvements at Central Elementary is \$173,132.80

Lonsdale Elementary

The Budget Board discussed the Fire Alarm Upgrades.

Mike Babbitt made a motion, seconded by Dave Hartley, to recommend \$29,000 for the fire alarm system work.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Saylesville Elementary

A recommendation of \$14,500 for the removal of VCT Tile on the lower level has already been voted upon by the Board.

Administration

A recommendation of \$55,000 for a new Utility Truck has already been voted upon by the Board.

There is a replacement plan in place for future vehicles, and it was noted that it goes into capital resolutions so that the funds are reimbursable by the state.

The total for recommended School Capital Improvement Projects is \$646,632.80

The total for recommended Municipal Capital Improvement Projects is \$745,000 excluding the Animal Shelter addition which has not been voted upon for recommendation yet.

Budget Adjustments

Adjustments to the Education Budget were discussed.

Carl Brunetti made a motion, seconded by Bill DiBiasio, that Breakage be adjusted by \$55,881.70

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Budget Board discussed that the requested Floating Custodian position would partially be put into place to fill in where needed, which would mean Substitute Custodian expenses should decrease if that is the case.

Carl Brunetti made a motion, seconded by Bill DiBiasio, not to recommend the Floating Custodian for \$61,975.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Carl Brunetti made a motion, seconded by Bill DiBiasio, not to

recommend the increase of Athletic Director from a .6 position to a full-time position for an additional \$31,940.

The voted adjustments to the recommendations of the School Committee's budget are a total of \$219,816 which still leaves the Budget Boards proposal at \$407,000 than the Town Administrator's recommendation.

The Budget Board discussed school staffing and that enrollment is down by 1.4%.

If the staffing level was reduced by a similar rate of 1.4% it would mean a reduction of 6 staff, or the recommendation could also be to take the total payroll with benefits and reduce that by 1.4% which would be a \$588,000 reduction.

There are 3 retirements anticipated next year.

The Budget Board discussed discrepancies in what was budgeted versus what is being spent in lines such as salaries (possibly due to substitute teachers), Buildings, Grounds and Transportation in the operations budget, and Purchased Services.

Public Comment

Fred Hoppe noted that in the staffing worksheets that the Budget Board compiled, it would be more useful to have the staffing numbers separated by teachers and other staff.

It was noted that occasionally, particularly in self-contained

classrooms, the Special Education enrollment and special staffing are not included in those class size ratios either.

Mr. Hoppe noted that the schools are in need of more Psychologists, Social Workers, Guidance Counselors and other Special Education positions due to increased student needs.

Adjourn

Dave Hartley made a motion, seconded by Bill DiBiasio, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 pm.

3/24 Pg 2 – fund not fun

Chase Farm Garage – 3 bathrooms too, 2 storage and overhang

Last pg – Mike 240,606, now 230,730

Take out demo cuz already done 10,400

3/26 Chase Farm – new hot water heaters and a heating system were installed

Animal Shelter – population of the shelter decreased